

earlier than the priority date of Grisamore. Therefore, Grisamore does not qualify as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

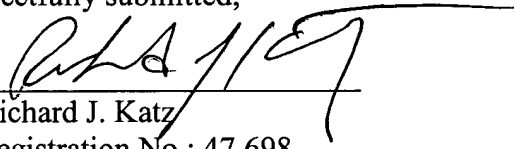
Each and every point raised in the Office Action dated May 8, 2003 has been addressed on the basis of the above amendments and remarks. In view of the foregoing it is believed that claims 1-12 are in condition for allowance and it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered and that all pending claims be allowed and the case passed to issue.

If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Dated: October 8, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By


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